



WILLIAM T FUJIOKA  
Chief Executive Officer

## County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
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Fifth District

November 18, 2008

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS: APPROVE CAPITAL PROJECTS, AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION CALIFORNIA AID TO AIRPORTS PROGRAM MATCHING GRANTS FOR INSTALLATION OF AUTOMATED WEATHER OBSERVATION SYSTEMS AT BRACKETT FIELD AIRPORT, CITY OF LA VERNE, CAPITAL PROJECT NO. 67930; COMPTON/WOODLEY AIRPORT, CITY OF COMPTON, CAPITAL PROJECT NO. 67931; EL MONTE AIRPORT, CITY OF EL MONTE, CAPITAL PROJECT NO. 67932; AND WHITEMAN AIRPORT, IN THE PACOIMA AREA OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES, CAPITAL PROJECT NO. 67933 (FIRST, SECOND, THIRD, AND FIFTH DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

### **SUBJECT**

This action is to approve project scope and estimated total project budget, and authorize the application for Federal and State assistance for the construction and installation under one contract of an Automated Weather Observation System at each of the four County airports.

### **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

1. Find that this project is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act.

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"*

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Intra-County Correspondence Sent Electronically Only**

2. Establish four Capital Projects in the Aviation Capital Projects Fund for installation of Automated Weather Observation Systems at Brackett Field Airport, City of La Verne, Capital Project No. 67930; Compton/Woodley Airport, City of Compton, Capital Project No. 67931; El Monte Airport, City of El Monte, Capital Project No. 67932; and Whiteman Airport, Pacoima Area of the City of Los Angeles, Capital Project No. 67933; and approve project scopes and estimated project costs of \$150,000 each, for an aggregate cost of \$600,000.
3. Authorize the Acting Director of Public Works or his designee to apply for a Federal Aviation Administration Airport Improvement Program Grant for \$600,000, to provide a minimum of 90 percent reimbursement for the installation of Automated Weather Observation Systems at each of the four above-mentioned airports.
4. Authorize the Acting Director of Public Works or his designee to apply for a California Department of Transportation California Aid to Airports Program Matching Funds Grant, which will reimburse up to 2.5 percent of the Federal grant amount.
5. Approve an exception to the County's Grant Policy by authorizing the Acting Director of Public Works or his designee to accept the Federal Aviation Administration Airport Improvement Program Grant for this project.
6. Authorize the Acting Director of Public Works or his designee to conduct business with the Federal Aviation Administration on any and all matters related to the grant funds for this project, including executing the grant agreement and signing requests for reimbursement.
7. Authorize the Acting Director of Public Works or his designee to act as agent for the County to execute grants amendments as may be necessary to complete the project as described in this letter, including extensions of time, minor changes in project scope, and alterations in the project budget or grant amount of up to 10 percent, subject to approval of such documents by County Counsel.

#### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Approval of the recommended actions will allow the Department of Public Works (Public Works) to obtain Federal and State grant funding for construction and installation of an Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS) at Brackett Field Airport, City of La

Verne; Compton/Woodley Airport, City of Compton; El Monte Airport, City of El Monte; and Whiteman Airport, Pacoima Area of the City of Los Angeles. Public Works is proposing to construct and install an AWOS at the four County airports under one contract, which will expedite the contracting process and achieve cost savings through economies of scale.

The four projects consist of the site planning and construction to install the AWOS at the subject airports, which includes minor construction of a signal tower placed in the in-field areas at each of the subject airports. These projects will be accomplished by a qualified firm to be retained through the County's competitive bid process.

The AWOS automatically measures meteorological parameters, reduces and analyzes the data via a powerful computer, and broadcasts aviation weather reports, which can be received by aircraft at all hours. Currently this information is not available at Compton/Woodley Airport, and is only available to aircraft during operational hours of the air traffic control towers at Brackett Field, El Monte, and Whiteman Airports.

Installation of the AWOS will update weather observation technology to current aviation industry standards and will provide a traceable weather standard and serve as the primary surface weather-observing network, as well as enhance airport traffic control operations.

Following the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grant offer, Public Works has two weeks to prepare and execute the grant agreement. To ensure that the short timeframe of the FAA AIP grant acceptance deadline is met, we are recommending that your Board approve an exception to the County's Grant Policy, which requires that all grants are to be accepted by your Board. The proposed exception to the grant acceptance policy would allow the Acting Director of Public Works to accept the Federal Grant on behalf of the County.

Following acceptance of the FAA AIP Grant, we will return to your Board to accept the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) California Aid to Airports Program (CAAP) Matching Funds Grant and to recommend authorization to advertise for construction bids.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provision of Service Excellence (Goal 1) and Fiscal Responsibility (Goal 4). This action will provide an improved and more accommodating facility for airport customers and will support the strategy of actively seeking grant funds from outside sources to increase the County's funding sources.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The recommended action will have no impact to the County General Fund.

The estimated cost for each of the four proposed projects to install the AWOS at the subject County airports is \$150,000, or an aggregate total of \$600,000. As reflected in the Individual Project Budget Summary in Attachment A, each project budget includes \$120,000 for a Construction Contract and \$10,000 for Change Orders, \$10,000 for Consultant Services to provide Site Plans, and \$10,000 in County Services for Project Management. The Aggregate Budget Summary in Attachment A reflects the budget summary for the combined cost of all four Capital Projects to install the AWOS.

Financing for this project is designated in the Fiscal Year 2008-09 Aviation Capital Projects Fund (ACPF). Based on the current project estimates, the anticipated FAA Grant of \$540,000 will provide 90 percent reimbursement of the construction, installation, and Public Works project administration costs. The State Matching Grant will reimburse up to \$13,500, or 2.5 percent of the Federal Grant amount. The Federal, State, and ACPF amounts will be adjusted according to the lowest, responsive and responsible bid. Concurrent with the project award, we will return to your Board for a Budget Adjustment to appropriate the funds.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

Pursuant to the Public Utilities Code Sections 21681-21684 and Section 4064 of the CAAP Regulations, local government approval authorizing the submittal of applications for grant funding is required.

The project will only be initiated upon award of the FAA grant funding. An estimated project schedule is included as Attachment A.

On July 11, 2000, your Board approved the guidelines for the acceptance of State and Federal Grants in the amount of \$100,000, or more. These guidelines include a requirement that a County department prepare a Grant Management Statement for your Board's review prior to the department's carrying out activities covered under the grant. The attached Grant Management Statement for the FAA AIP Grant (Attachment B) has been prepared to conform to this requirement.

The FAA AIP Grant Agreement will be reviewed and approved as to form by County Counsel prior to execution by the Acting Director of Public Works or his designee.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

The California Environmental Quality Act requires public agency decision makers to document and consider the environmental implications of their actions. The proposed project is categorically exempt pursuant to Class 11 of the Environmental Reporting Procedures and Guidelines adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987, and Section 15311 of the California Environmental Quality Act guidelines. These exemptions provide for construction or replacement of minor structures accessory to existing commercial, industrial, or institutional facilities.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

Currently, three County airports have weather information only available during hours of operation of the Air Traffic Control Tower and Compton/Woodley Airport has no weather reporting capability. The users of the airports will benefit from the installation of an AWOS because weather information will be available to pilots 24 hours a day.

### **CONCLUSION**

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to the Chief Executive Office, Capital Projects; one to the Department of Public Works, Aviation Division; and one to the Auditor-Controller, General Claims Division.

Respectfully submitted,



WILLIAM T FUJIOKA  
Chief Executive Officer

WTF:DDE:DL  
JSE:DJT:RB:zu

### **Attachments**

c: Auditor-Controller  
County Counsel  
Department of Public Works

November 18, 2008

**ATTACHMENT A**

**AUTOMATED WEATHER OBSERVATION SYSTEM PROJECT  
PROJECT ACTIVITY SUMMARY**

**I. PROJECT SCHEDULE**

<b>Project Activity</b>	<b>Proposed Completion Date</b>
Submit Application to FAA and Caltrans	December 2008
Award Consultant Services Contract	February 2009
Receive FAA Grant Award	April 2009
Project Start	June 2009
Final Completion	September 2009

## II. INDIVIDUAL AND AGGREGATE PROJECT BUDGET SUMMARIES

Project Activity	Proposed Individual Budget	Proposed Aggregate Budget
Land Acquisition	\$0	\$0
Construction		
Low Bid Construction Contract *	\$120,000	\$480,000
Job Order Contract	0	0
Change Orders *	10,000	40,000
Departmental Crafts	0	0
Youth Employment	0	0
Construction Consultants	0	0
Misc. Expense	0	0
Telecomm Equip – Affixed to Building	0	0
Civic Arts	0	0
Subtotal	\$130,000	\$520,000
Programming/Development	\$0	\$0
Plans and Specifications	\$0	\$0
Consultant Services		
Site Planning	\$10,000	\$40,000
Hazardous Materials	0	0
Geotech/Soils Report and Soils Testing	0	0
Material Testing	0	0
Cost Estimating	0	0
Topographic Surveys	0	0
Construction Management	0	0
Construction Administration	0	0
Environmental	0	0
Move Management	0	0
Equipment Planning	0	0
Legal	0	0
Construction/Change Order	0	0
Other:	0	0
Subtotal	\$10,000	\$40,000
Miscellaneous Expenditures *	\$0	\$0
Jurisdictional Review/Plan Check/Permit	\$0	\$0
County Services		
Code Compliance Inspection	\$0	\$0
Quality Control Inspection *	0	0
Design Review *	0	0
Design Services	0	0
Contract Administration	0	0
Project Management *	10,000	40,000
Project Management Support Services *	0	0
ISD Job Order Contract Management	0	0
DPW Job Order Contract Management	0	0
ISD ITS Communications	0	0
Project Security	0	0
Project Technical Support	0	0
Office of Affirmative Action	0	0
County Counsel	0	0
Other:	0	0
Sheriff Job Order Contract Management	0	0
Subtotal	\$10,000	\$40,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$150,000</b>	<b>\$600,000</b>

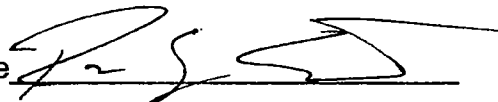
\* Reflects preliminary cost estimate and is subject to change upon award of construction installation bids.

## ATTACHMENT B

### Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office Grant Management Statement for Grants \$100,000 or More

<b>Department:</b> Public Works		
<b>Grant Project Title and Description</b>		
Automated Weather Observation System Project		
<b>Funding Agency</b>	<b>Program (Fed. Grant #/State Bill or Code #)</b>	<b>Grant Acceptance Deadline</b>
Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)	Airport Improvement Program (AIP)	Two weeks after receipt of grant agreement
<b>Total Amount of Grant Funding: \$ 550,000</b>		<b>County Match: \$ 50,000 (hard)*</b>
<b>Grant Period:</b> Until project is completed	<b>Begin Date:</b> 03/09 (est.)	<b>End Date:</b> N/A
<b>Number of Personnel Hired Under This Grant:</b> 0	<b>Full Time:</b> N/A	<b>Part Time:</b> N/A
<b><u>Obligations Imposed on the County When the Grant Expires</u></b>		
Will all personnel hired for this program be informed this is a grant-funded program?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
Will all personnel hired for this program be placed on temporary ("N") items?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
Is the County obligated to continue this program after the grant expires?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
If the County is not obligated to continue this program after the grant expires, the Department will:		
a.) Absorb the program cost without reducing other services	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
b.) Identify other revenue sources (describe below)		
*	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
c.) Eliminate or reduce, as appropriate, positions/program costs funded by the grant.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Impact of additional personnel on existing space:</b>		
N/A *		
<b>Other requirements not mentioned above:</b>		
The County will initiate the grant termination after the Board of Supervisors accepts the completed contract work.		
* County Match may be reduced by 2.5% of the federal grant amount in a form of a California Department of Transportation under the CAAP Matching Funds Grant Program.		

Department Head Signature



Date: 10-30-08